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Richard C. Bridges to his sister, 26 May 1864

Richard C. Bridges

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Flamstead May 26th
1864.

My dear Sister.

This is the kindness of
a lady I can write to you
now to let you know how I am
getting along, tho' I am not a
ble to write myself. My mamma
is getting on pretty well now
tho' a short time ago it was
very painful. I have been
cured - but I am better now yet
at times I suffer with my head
This is the twentieth day since
mamma was amputated. & tho'
I wrote my brother an account
of it - for fear he did not receive
my letter I will write again the
nature of my wound.

I was shot the first day of the
fight near Orange C. H. & was
struck with a Minnie ball di-
rectly in the front of the leg - the

left leg - just below the knee - carrying
my leg to the knee - My leg was
amputated just above the knee.
on the field the next morning
after I was wounded.

I have kind attention
of every sort - & could not be bet-
ter situated in a hospital - the
surgeons are very attentive & the
nurses very kind - a great ma-
ny ladies came in to see me - &
bring me flowers & different things
that I want.

The surgeon speaks hope-
fully of my recovery & I am in
good hope of getting well.

~~For more than 100 years~~
I would write to her - but I am
so weak as to be unable to
write at all - but my friend
Miss Smith - who is visiting here
for me - says she will write
to her for me in a few days.
She also says it will take me 24

try days to get well enough to
travel about - Then I see
it must be about June 1st.
From this time before I get
well enough to get home -

If Heaven it should please
God to take me away - I have the
consolation of knowing that I
have "a friend that I know to be
dearer than a brother" - in whom
I will trust.

Yours affectionately bro.

R. L. Bridges.

Chas. H. A.